United Nations S/PRST/2010/22

Security Council

Distr.: General
26 October 2010

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 6411th meeting of the Security Council, held on 26 October 2010, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Women and peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council, meeting on the tenth Anniversary of the adoption of its resolution 1325 (2000), reaffirms its commitment to the continuing and full implementation, in a mutually reinforcing manner, of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1612 (2005), 1674 (2006), 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1894 (2009) and all relevant Statements of its Presidents.

"The Security Council welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on Women and Peace and Security (S/2010/498), and the analysis it contains on progress in implementing resolution 1325 (2000).

"The Security Council welcomes General Assembly resolution A/64/289 establishing the UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) that will be fully operational in January 2011. The Council invites UN Women to regularly contribute to its work on women and peace and security and notes the valuable role it will play in supporting women's roles in peacebuilding and the prevention of sexual violence in conflict, including through coordination and coherence in policy and programming for women and girls. It welcomes the appointment of Ms. Michele Bachelet as its head.

"The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of all violations of applicable international law committed against women and girls in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict situations, including rape, other forms of sexual and gender-based violence and killing and maiming that contravene international law. The Council urges the complete cessation by all parties of such acts with immediate effect and also urges Member States to bring to justice those responsible for crimes of this nature. Their efforts to combat impunity must be matched with assistance and redress to victims. In this regard, it reiterates its support for the mandates of the Special Representatives of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and for Children and Armed Conflict and encourages them to continue to ensure full transparency, cooperation and coordination of their efforts.

"The Security Council notes that the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international concern committed against women and girls has

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been strengthened through the work of the International Criminal Court, ad hoc and mixed tribunals, as well as specialized chambers in national tribunals and takes note of the stocktaking of international criminal justice undertaken by the first Review Conference of the Rome Statute held in Kampala, Uganda from 31 May to 11 June 2010. The Council intends to enhance its efforts to fight impunity and uphold accountability for serious crimes against women and girls with appropriate means and draws attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and mixed criminal courts and tribunals, truth and reconciliation commissions as well as national reparation programs for victims, institutional reforms and traditional dispute resolution mechanisms.

"The Security Council recognizes the continued challenges and welcomes the many efforts to implement resolution 1325 (2000) detailed in the Secretary-General's report, in particular positive examples of efforts to engage with women's civil society groups in conflict resolution and peacebuilding, and to protect women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence.

"The Security Council notes with grave concern that women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, and that women's participation at all stages of peace processes and in the implementation of peace accords remains too low, despite the vital role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in rebuilding their societies. The Council recognizes the need to facilitate the full and effective participation of women in these areas and stresses that the full and effective participation of women is very important for sustainability of peace processes.

"The Security Council welcomes the efforts of Member States to implement its resolution 1325 (2000) at the national level, including the increase in the number of States that have formulated or revised national action plans and strategies, and encourages Member States to continue to pursue such implementation.

"The Security Council welcomes the concrete commitments made by a number of Member States at the present Ministerial Open Debate on 26 October 2010 to increase their efforts to implement its resolution 1325 (2000) and invites those Member States and any other Member States that wish to do so to regularly review implementation of this resolution and to report to the Security Council on progress made as appropriate.

"The Security Council supports taking forward, including by relevant UN entities, the set of indicators contained in the report of the Secretary-General (S/2010/498) for use as an initial framework to track implementation of its resolution 1325 in situations of armed conflict and post-conflict and other situations relevant to the implementation of resolution 1325, as appropriate, and taking into account the specificity of each country.

"The Security Council recognizes the need for consistent implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) in its own work and for monitoring progress in implementation. In this regard the Security Council underlines the need for timely and systematic reporting on women and peace and security issues and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that country-specific and relevant thematic issues reports and briefings, provide information on women and peace and

security issues and on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) using this set of indicators, as appropriate.

"The Security Council encourages Member States to take into account the set of indicators contained in the Annex of the Report of the Secretary-General on Women and Peace and Security (S/2010/498), as appropriate, in implementing Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent resolutions on women and peace and security.

"The Security Council reiterates its demand to all parties to armed conflict to immediately and completely cease all forms of violence against women and girls, including acts of sexual violence.

"The Security Council encourages Member States to deploy greater numbers of female military and police personnel to United Nations peacekeeping operations, and to provide all military and police personnel with adequate training to carry out their responsibilities. The Council requests the Secretary-General to continue and strengthen efforts to implement the policy of zero tolerance on sexual exploitation and abuse by United Nations peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel. The Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide and deploy guidance on addressing sexual violence for predeployment and inductive training of military and police personnel, and to assist missions in developing situation-specific procedures to address sexual violence at the field level and to ensure that technical support is provided to troop and police contributing countries in order to include guidance for military and police personnel on addressing sexual violence in predeployment and induction training. The Security Council welcomes the work of gender and women protection advisers appointed to peacekeeping missions. The Council looks forward to considering the annual report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of its resolution 1820 (2008).

"The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to continue to submit an annual report to it on the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). The Council further requests the Secretary-General to propose in his next annual report a strategic framework to guide the UN's implementation of the resolution in the next decade, which includes targets and indicators and takes account of relevant processes within the Secretariat. In this context, the Council requests the Secretary-General to include recommendations for policy and institutional reforms in the UN that will facilitate improved response by the Organization to women and peace and security issues.

"The Security Council reiterates its request to Member States, international, regional and subregional organizations to take measures to increase the participation of women in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding, including in decision-making roles in post-conflict governance institutions, appointed and elected. The Council urges the Secretary-General to appoint more women as mediators and special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf.

"The Security Council expresses its intention to convene a High-level Review in five years to assess progress at the global, regional and national levels in implementing resolution 1325, renew commitments and address obstacles and constraints that have emerged in the implementation of resolution 1325."